



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

Minutes 06/11/2014

ARLINGTON TREE COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 11, 7:30 PM, Town Hall

Present: Sally Naish, Ed Trembly, Eliza Burden, Mary Ellen Aronow, Susan Stamps, Eliza Burden

Item 1. Welcome

Item 2. Approval of the May meeting minutes. Delayed until next meeting

Item 3. Spring treeplanting wrapup. MaryEllen distributed a sign-up genius to the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts so that they can sign up to water the two new trees at Bishop School and at Robbins Farm Park. ATC members to oversee these 2 trees:

Robbins Tree: Bishop Tree:

Mary Ellen A. June 10 - 31st

Susan S. July 1 - 13th Sally N: July 1 - 13th

Ed T. August 1 - 15th Eliza B: July 14 - 31st

Eliza also reported on the Brian Murray tree planting on May 31. The family was very pleased with the event and very grateful. There was a strong showing of people--friends, family, colleagues of Brian's. The tree committee provided a bin of mulch that attendees could place around the base of the tree. It was a nice way to physically involve those who could be present for the treeplanting. Liz Pilcher successfully got a photograph and description of the event submitted to the Advocate and it was printed in the June 5 issue.

Item 4. Planting public trees on private property. Susan Stamps presented the Lexington setback planting agreement, and all on the tree committee agreed that this would be a good model for Arlington. Together we decided there should be two edits, namely an indication that digsafe would be contacted prior to planting on private property. It was always also recommended that the shade tree law be referenced in this agreement, with a copy of the pertinent section of the law on the back of the document. Susan will draft up this setback planting agreement, and circulate to the tree committee for approval before submitting it to the DPW.

Item 5. Publicity. Eliza reported that Liz Pilcher did a wonderful job reaching out to the Arlington Advocate editor, Eileen Kennedy. She proposed to Kennedy that we start a monthly column and presented a list of sample article topics that might be covered in these columns. Since the tree committee may not meet in July and August, the group brainstormed what topics might be covered in the next three columns. Liz has already drafted a July article on 1 trees. We also discussed the possibility of making mention of the fact that the Arlington tree committee is looking for new members. People interested in joining the ATC should contact ATC directly through the yahoo email rather than going through the selectmen. An August column might feature a picture of the dead tree and encourage people to water their new trees during the typically drive month of August. We could include an abbreviated form of our watering instructions. A September article could feature Town Day, encouraging people to stop by our booth and enter a raffle to win a free tree. No progress yet on establishing a Facebook page.

Item 6. Library summer reading program. Mary Ellen explained that the library program is having children adopt trees through town and these will be on a map. There was discussion of using this map at our Town Day booth.

Item 7. Other business.

We discussed Town Day and came up with potential ideas: T-shirt sales, raffle for a new tree (MEA will ask Michael Rademacher), Having CPA flyers on our table with a sheet mentioning why CPA could be advantageous to trees in town (CPA may be on Nov ballot), hanging branches at the front of our tent. Susan Stamps mentioned that she may be unavailable to work at the booth, given her role with the CPA effort

Summer committee meeting schedule. We will keep our July 9 meeting on the calendar, but will hold the meeting only if there are enough items on the agenda, and enough available committee members. There will be no August tree committee meeting. We will however have a September 10 meeting, which is three days prior to Town Day, leaving us just enough time to coordinate supplies for the event.

Eliza mentioned a rally to preserve the silver maple forest event on June 28.

<http://www.friendsofalewifereservation.org/>

Co-Chair position (Eliza Burden) to expire with June meeting. Committee (and Eliza specifically) agreed to extend role into July to cover the July 9 monthly meeting, with discussion and election of new co-chair at that time.

Next meeting: Wednesday, July 9th, 2014 at 7:30 pm in Selectmen's Hearing Room